

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A washing machine cabinet comprising:
a body having an open front side, the body comprising:
a base plate at a bottom of the body;
a pair of side panels on both sides of the base plate;
a rear panel in rear of the base plate and the side panels; and
a top panel on the side panels and the rear panel; and
a front panel in front of the body ~~to have having top and bottom frames and flanges and a~~
plurality of notch recesses for preventing stress concentration; wherein
the notch recesses are formed at both ends of top and bottom flanges and in ~~the~~ vicinity of
both ends of the top and bottom frames, respectively.
2. (Original) The washing machine cabinet as claimed in claim 1, wherein the notch recesses
are formed at an outline part of the front panel.
3. (Original) The washing machine cabinet as claimed in claim 2, the outline part of the front
panel comprising:
a top flange bent from a top edge in a rear direction;
a pair of side flanges bent from both sides in the rear direction; and
a bottom flange bent from a bottom edge in the rear direction.
4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The washing machine cabinet as claimed in claim 3, wherein the notch recesses are formed at both ends of the side flanges.

6. (Original) The washing machine cabinet as claimed in claim 1, wherein the notch recesses are "U" shaped.

7. (Previously Presented) The washing machine cabinet as claimed in claim 1, wherein the notch recesses are formed at one side of portions where the front panel is assembled to the body.

8. (Currently Amended) A washing machine comprising:

a washing tub having an inner tub rotatably installed to hold a laundry for washing and an outer tub holding the inner tub;

a drive means for rotating the inner tub;

a body holding the washing tub and the drive means inside, the body comprising:

a base plate at a bottom of the body;

a pair of side panels on both sides of the base plate;

a rear panel in rear of the base plate and the side panels; and

a top panel on the side panels and the rear panel; and

a front panel in front of the body ~~to have having top and bottom frames and flanges and a~~
plurality of notch recesses for preventing stress concentration; wherein

the notch recesses are formed at both ends of the top and bottom flanges and in the vicinity of both ends of the top and bottom frames, respectively.

9. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 8, wherein the notch recesses are formed at an outline part of the front panel.

10. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 9, the outline part of the front panel comprising:

a top flange bent from a top edge in a rear direction;

a pair of side flanges bent from both sides in the rear direction; and

a bottom flange bent from a bottom edge in the rear direction.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 10, wherein the notch recesses are formed at both ends of the side flanges.

13. (Original) The washing machine as claimed in claim 8, wherein the notch recesses are "U" shaped.

14. (Previously Presented) The washing machine as claimed in claim 8, wherein the notch recesses are formed at one side of portions where the front panel is assembled to the body.

15. (Previously Presented) The washing machine cabinet of claim 1, wherein the top and bottom flanges extend toward the open front side and the notch recesses are located at each corner

of the top and bottom flanges.

16. (Previously Presented) The washing machine cabinet of claim 15, wherein the notch recesses open toward the open front side of the cabinet body.

17. (Previously Presented) The washing machine of claim 8, wherein the top and bottom flanges extend toward the open front side and the notch recesses are located at each corner of the top and bottom flanges.

18. (Previously Presented) The washing machine of claim 17, wherein the notch recesses open toward the open front side of the cabinet body.